

CALLING ON THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN TO FULFILL THEIR
PROMISES OF ASSISTANCE IN THIS CASE OF ROBERT
LEVINSON, THE LONGEST HELD UNITED STATES HOSTAGE
IN OUR NATION'S HISTORY; RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE
OF THE UNITED STATES-ISRAEL ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP
AND ENCOURAGING NEW AREAS OF COOPERATION; GLOBAL
DEVELOPMENT LAB ACT OF 2015, AND ENHANCING OVER-
SEAS TRAVELER VETTING ACT

MARKUP

BEFORE THE

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

ON

H. Res. 148, H. Res. 551, H.R. 3924 and H.R. 4403

FEBRUARY 24, 2016

Serial No. 114-144

Printed for the use of the Committee on Foreign Affairs



Available via the World Wide Web: <http://www.foreignaffairs.house.gov/> or
<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/>

U.S. GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE

98-828PDF

WASHINGTON : 2016

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Publishing Office
Internet: bookstore.gpo.gov Phone: toll free (866) 512-1800; DC area (202) 512-1800
Fax: (202) 512-2104 Mail: Stop IDCC, Washington, DC 20402-0001

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**CALLING ON THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN TO FULFILL
THEIR PROMISES OF ASSISTANCE IN THIS CASE OF ROBERT
LEVINSON, THE LONGEST HELD UNITED STATES HOS-
TAGE IN OUR NATION'S HISTORY; RECOGNIZING THE IM-
PORTANCE OF THE UNITED STATES-ISRAEL ECONOMIC
RELATIONSHIP AND ENCOURAGING NEW AREAS OF CO-
OPERATION; GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT LAB ACT OF 2015,
AND ENHANCING OVERSEAS TRAVELER VETTING ACT**

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2016

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC.

The committee met, pursuant to notice, at 10:04 a.m., in room 2172 Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Edward Royce (chairman of the committee) presiding.

Chairman ROYCE. All right, House Resolution 148. So the committee will come to order. Pursuant to notice, we meet today to mark up four bipartisan measures, and without objection, all members may have 5 days to submit statements for the record and extraneous material on any of today's business.

As all members were notified yesterday, we intend to consider today's measures en bloc and so without objection the following items previously provided to the Members of the House will be considered en bloc and are considered as read.

First, House Resolution 148, calling on the Government of Iran to fulfill their promises of assistance in the case of Robert Levinson. Ros-Lehtinen Amendment 31 in the nature of a substitute offered on behalf of herself and on behalf of Mr. Deutch, which is the text adopted by the Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa on February 11th.

And then we have House Resolution 551, recognizing the importance of the United States-Israel economic relationship.

Also, H.R. 3924, the Global Development Lab Act, along with the Castro Amendment 218 in the nature of a substitute.

And lastly, we have H.R. 4403, the Enhancing Overseas Traveler Vetting Act.

[The information referred to follows:]

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 148

Calling on the Government of Iran to fulfill their promises of assistance in this case of Robert Levinson, the longest held United States civilian in our Nation's history.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 10, 2015

Mr. DEUTCH (for himself, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and Mr. DIAZ-BALART) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Calling on the Government of Iran to fulfill their promises of assistance in this case of Robert Levinson, the longest held United States civilian in our Nation's history.

Whereas United States citizen Robert Levinson is a retired agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), a resident of Coral Springs, Florida, the husband of Christine Levinson, and father of their 7 children;

Whereas Robert Levinson traveled from Dubai, UAE, to Kish Island, Iran, on March 8, 2007;

Whereas, after traveling to Kish Island and checking into the Hotel Maryam, Robert Levinson disappeared on March 9, 2007;

Whereas, in December 2007, Robert Levinson's wife, Christine, traveled to Kish Island to retrace Mr. Levinson's steps and met with officials of the Government of Iran who pledged to help in the investigation;

Whereas, for more than 8 years, the United States Government has continually pressed the Government of Iran to provide any information on the whereabouts of Robert Levinson and to help ensure his prompt and safe return to his family;

Whereas officials of the Government of Iran promised their continued assistance to the relatives of Robert Levinson during the visit of the family to the Islamic Republic of Iran in December 2007;

Whereas, in November 2010, the Levinson family received a video of Mr. Levinson in captivity, representing the first proof of life since his disappearance and providing some initial indications that he was being held somewhere in southwest Asia;

Whereas, in April 2011, the Levinson family received a series of pictures of Mr. Levinson, which provided further indications that he was being held somewhere in southwest Asia;

Whereas Secretary John Kerry stated on August 28, 2013, "The United States respectfully asks the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to work cooperatively with us in our efforts to help U.S. citizen Robert Levinson.";

Whereas, on September 28, 2013, during the first direct phone conversation between the leaders of the United States and Iran since 1979, President Barack Obama raised the case of Robert Levinson to President of Iran

Hassan Rouhani and urged the President of Iran to help locate Mr. Levinson and reunite him with his family;

Whereas, on August 29, 2014, Secretary of State John Kerry again stated that the United States “respectfully request the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran work cooperatively with us to find Mr. Levinson and bring him home.”;

Whereas the United States is currently engaged in regular, direct negotiations with the Government of Iran over its nuclear program;

Whereas March 9, 2015, marks the 2,922nd day since Mr. Levinson’s disappearance, and he is now the longest held United States civilian in our Nation’s history; and

Whereas the FBI has announced a \$5,000,000 reward for information leading to Mr. Levinson’s safe return: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House—

2 (1) recognizes that Robert Levinson is the long-
3 est held United States civilian in our Nation’s his-
4 tory;

5 (2) notes the pledges by current officials of the
6 Government of Iran to provide their Government’s
7 assistance in the case of Robert Levinson;

8 (3) urges the Government of Iran, as a humani-
9 tarian gesture, to intensify its cooperation on the
10 case of Robert Levinson and to immediately share
11 the results of its investigation into the disappearance

1 of Robert Levinson with the United States Govern-
2 ment;

3 (4) urges the President and the allies of the
4 United States to continue to raise with officials of
5 the Government of Iran the case of Robert Levinson
6 at every opportunity, notwithstanding serious dis-
7 agreements the United States Government has with
8 the Government of Iran on a broad array of issues,
9 including human rights, the nuclear program of
10 Iran, the Middle East peace process, regional sta-
11 bility, and international terrorism; and

12 (5) expresses sympathy to the family of Robert
13 Levinson for their anguish and expresses hope that
14 their ordeal can be brought to an end in the near
15 future.

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H. RES. 148
OFFERED BY MS. ROS-LEHTINEN OF FLORIDA
AND MR. DEUTCH OF FLORIDA**

Strike the preamble and insert the following:

Whereas United States citizen Robert Levinson is a retired agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), a resident of Coral Springs, Florida, the husband of Christine Levinson, and father of their 7 children;

Whereas Robert Levinson traveled from Dubai, UAE, to Kish Island, Iran, on March 8, 2007;

Whereas after traveling to Kish Island and checking into the Hotel Maryam, Robert Levinson disappeared on March 9, 2007;

Whereas, in December 2007, Robert Levinson's wife, Christine, traveled to Kish Island to retrace Mr. Levinson's steps and met with officials of the Government of Iran who pledged to help in the investigation;

Whereas, for more than 8 years, the United States Government has continually pressed the Government of Iran to provide any information on the whereabouts of Robert Levinson and to help ensure his prompt and safe return to his family;

Whereas officials of the Government of Iran promised their continued assistance to the relatives of Robert Levinson during the visit of the family to the Islamic Republic of Iran in December 2007;

Whereas, in November 2010, the Levinson family received a video of Mr. Levinson in captivity, representing the first proof of life since his disappearance and providing some initial indications that he was being held somewhere in southwest Asia;

Whereas, in April 2011, the Levinson family received a series of pictures of Mr. Levinson, which provided further indications that he was being held somewhere in southwest Asia;

Whereas Secretary John Kerry stated on August 28, 2013, “The United States respectfully asks the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to work cooperatively with us in our efforts to help U.S. citizen Robert Levinson.”;

Whereas, on September 28, 2013, during the first direct phone conversation between the heads of the Government of the United States and Iran since 1979, President Barack Obama raised the case of Robert Levinson to President of Iran Hassan Rouhani and urged the President of Iran to help locate Mr. Levinson and reunite him with his family;

Whereas, on August 29, 2014, Secretary of State John Kerry again stated that the United States “respectfully request the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran work cooperatively with us to find Mr. Levinson and bring him home.”;

Whereas on July 14, 2015, the Governments of the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Russia, China, and Germany concluded 20 months of negotiations with Iran over its nuclear program;

Whereas, on January 16, 2016, the Government of Iran released five United States citizens detained in Iran, Jason

Rezaian of California, Saeed Abedini of Idaho, Amir Mirzaei Hekmati of Michigan, Matthew Trevithick of Massachusetts, and Nosratollah Khosravi-Roodsari;

Whereas, on January 17, 2016, President Obama stated “even as we rejoice in the safe return of others, we will never forget about Bob”, referring to Robert Levinson, and that “each and every day but especially today our hearts are with the Levinson family and we will never rest until their family is whole again.”;

Whereas, on January 19, 2016, White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest stated that the United States Government had “secured a commitment from the Iranians to use the channel that has now been opened to secure the release of those individuals that we know were being held by Iran. . .to try and gather information about Mr. Levinson’s possible whereabouts”;

Whereas, on November 26, 2013, Robert Levinson became the longest held United States hostage in our Nation’s history; and

Whereas the FBI has announced a \$5,000,000 reward for information leading to Mr. Levinson’s safe return: Now, therefore, be it

Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following:

That the House of Representatives—

- 1 (1) recognizes that Robert Levinson is the long-
- 2 est held United States hostage in our Nation’s his-
- 3 tory;

1 (2) notes the repeated pledges by and renewed
2 commitment of officials of the Government of Iran
3 to provide their Government's assistance in the case
4 of Robert Levinson;

5 (3) urges the Government of Iran, as a humani-
6 tarian gesture, to act on its promises to assist in the
7 case of Robert Levinson and to immediately provide
8 to the United States Government all available infor-
9 mation from all entities of the Government of Iran
10 regarding the disappearance of Robert Levinson;

11 (4) urges the President and the allies of the
12 United States to continue to raise with officials of
13 the Government of Iran the case of Robert Levinson
14 at every opportunity, notwithstanding ongoing and
15 serious disagreements the United States Government
16 has with the Government of Iran on a broad array
17 of issues, including Iran's ballistic missile program,
18 sponsorship of international terrorism, and human
19 rights abuses; and

20 (5) expresses sympathy to the family of Robert
21 Levinson for their anguish and expresses hope that
22 their ordeal can be brought to an end in the near
23 future.

Amend the title so as to read: "A resolution calling
on the Government of Iran to follow through on repeated
promises of assistance in the case of Robert Levinson,

10

5

the longest held United States hostage in our Nation's history.”.



114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 551

Recognizing the importance of the United States-Israel economic relationship
and encouraging new areas of cooperation.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 3, 2015

Mr. TED LIEU of California (for himself, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. ROYCE, and
Mr. ENGEL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the
Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the importance of the United States-Israel economic relationship and encouraging new areas of cooperation.

Whereas the deep bond between the United States and Israel is exemplified by its many facets, including the robust economic and commercial relationship;

Whereas, on April 22, 2015, the United States celebrated the 30th anniversary of its free trade agreement with Israel, which was the first free trade agreement entered into by the United States;

Whereas the United States-Israel Free Trade Agreement established the Joint Committee to facilitate the agreement and collaborate on efforts to increase bilateral cooperation and investment;

Whereas since the signing of this agreement, two-way trade has multiplied tenfold to over \$40,000,000,000 annually;

Whereas Israel is the third largest importer of United States goods in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region after Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates despite representing only 2 percent of the region's population;

Whereas nearly half of all investment into the United States from the MENA region comes from Israel;

Whereas Israel has more companies listed on the NASDAQ Stock Exchange than any other country except for the United States and China;

Whereas in 1956, the United States-Israel Education Foundation was established to administer the Fulbright Program in Israel, and has facilitated the exchange of nearly 3,300 students between the United States and Israel since its inception;

Whereas in 1972, the United States-Israel Binational Science Foundation (BSF) was established to promote scientific relations between the United States and Israel by supporting collaborative research projects in basic and applied scientific fields, and has generated investments of over \$480,000,000 to over 4,000 projects since its inception. Binational Science Foundation grant recipients have included 43 Nobel Laureates, 19 winners of the Albert Lasker Medical Research Award, and 38 recipients of the Wolf Prize;

Whereas in 1977, the United States-Israel Binational Industrial Research and Development Foundation (BIRD) was established to stimulate, promote and support non-defense industrial research and development of mutual ben-

efit to both countries in agriculture, communications, life sciences, electronics, electro-optics, energy, healthcare information technology, homeland security, software, water and other technologies, and has provided over \$300,000,000 to over 700 joint projects since its inception;

Whereas recent successful BIRD projects include the ReWalk system that helps paraplegics walk, a medical teaching simulator for Laparoscopic Hysterectomies and a new drug to treat chronic gout;

Whereas in 1978, the United States-Israel Binational Agricultural Research and Development Fund was established as a competitive funding program for mutually beneficial, mission-oriented, strategic and applied research of agricultural problems conducted jointly by American and Israeli scientists, and has provided over \$250,000,000 to over 1,000 projects since its inception;

Whereas an independent review of the United States-Israel Binational Agricultural Research and Development Fund (BARD) estimated that the dollar benefits of just 10 of its projects through 2010 came to \$440,000,000 in the United States and \$300,000,000 in Israel, far exceeding total investment in the program;

Whereas in 1984, the United States and Israel began convening the Joint Economic Development Group (JEDG) to regularly discuss economic conditions and identify new opportunities for collaboration;

Whereas in 1994, the United States-Israel Science and Technology Foundation (USISTF) was established to promote the advancement of science and technology for mutual

economic benefit and has developed joint research and development programs that reach 12 States;

Whereas the United States-Israel Innovation Index (USI3), which was developed by USISTF to track and benchmark innovation relationships, ranks the United States-Israel innovation relationship as top-tier;

Whereas in 2007, the United States-Israel Binational Industrial Research and Development Foundation (BIRD) Energy program was established to provide support for joint United States-Israel research and development of renewable energy and energy efficiency, and has provided \$18,000,000 to 20 joint projects since its founding;

Whereas since 2011, the United States Department of Energy and the Israeli Ministry of National Infrastructures, Energy and Water Resources have led an annual United States-Israel Energy Meeting with participants across government agencies to facilitate bilateral cooperation in that sector;

Whereas in 2012, the United States Congress passed and President Barack Obama signed into law the United States-Israel Enhanced Security Cooperation Act of 2012, which set United States policy to expand bilateral cooperation across the spectrum of civilian sectors including high technology, agriculture, medicine, health, pharmaceuticals, and energy;

Whereas in 2013, President Barack Obama said in reference to Israel's contribution to the global economy, "That innovation is just as important to the relationship between the United States and Israel as our security cooperation.";

Whereas in 2014, United States Secretary of the Treasury Jacob Lew said, “As one of the most technologically-advanced and innovative economies in the world, Israel is an important economic partner to the United States.”;

Whereas the 2014 Global Venture Capital Confidence Survey ranked the United States and Israel as the two countries with the highest levels of investor confidence in the world;

Whereas in 2014, the United States Congress passed and President Obama signed into law the United States-Israel Strategic Partnership Act of 2014, which deepened cooperation on energy, water, agriculture, trade and defense, and expressed the sense of Congress that Israel is a major strategic partner of the United States; and

Whereas economic cooperation between the United States and Israel has also thrived at the state and local levels through both formal agreements and bilateral organizations in over 30 States that have encouraged new forms of cooperation in fields such as water conservation, cybersecurity, and alternative energy and farming technologies: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) affirms that the United States-Israel eco-
3 nomic partnership has achieved great tangible and
4 intangible benefits to both countries and is a
5 foundational component of the strong alliance;

6 (2) recognizes that science and technology inno-
7 vation present promising new frontiers for United
8 States-Israel economic cooperation, particularly in
9 light of widespread drought, cybersecurity attacks,

1 and other major challenges impacting the United
2 States;

3 (3) encourages the Administration to regularize
4 and expand existing forums of economic dialogue
5 with Israel and foster both public and private sector
6 participation; and

7 (4) expresses support for the Administration to
8 explore new agreements with Israel, including in the
9 fields of energy, water, agriculture, medicine,
10 neurotechnology and cybersecurity.

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3924

To establish in the United States Agency for International Development an entity to be known as the United States Global Development Lab, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 4, 2015

Mr. CASTRO of Texas (for himself and Mr. McCAUL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To establish in the United States Agency for International Development an entity to be known as the United States Global Development Lab, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

4 This Act may be cited as the “Global Development
5 Lab Act of 2015”.

6 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) Leveraging academic research and private
9 sector expertise to effectively apply science and tech-

1 nology to United States foreign aid can increase the
2 effectiveness of United States aid dollars and lead to
3 better outcomes.

4 (2) In the last 20 years, human ingenuity and
5 entrepreneurship around the world has reduced child
6 mortality rates by 42 percent and poverty rates by
7 52 percent, lifting hundreds of millions of people out
8 of poverty.

9 (3) Over the next 40 years, the developing
10 world is expected to be the largest source of product
11 and services growth. Breakthroughs pioneered for
12 the developing world can translate into jobs and eco-
13 nomic growth in the United States.

14 (4) In 2014 the Office of Science and Tech-
15 nology and the Office of Innovation and Develop-
16 ment Alliances at the United States Agency for
17 International Development were abolished to pave
18 the way to bring their staffing and other resources
19 into the United States Global Development Lab.

20 (5) The Lab represents a new approach to in-
21 vest, test, and apply more effective solutions to hu-
22 manity's greatest challenges.

23 (6) The Lab will partner with entrepreneurs,
24 experts, nongovernmental organizations, universities,
25 and science and research institutions to solve devel-

1 opment challenges in a faster, more cost-efficient,
2 and more sustainable way.

3 (7) The Lab will utilize innovation incentives, a
4 pay-for-success model, which uses science, tech-
5 nology, and innovation-driven competitions to ex-
6 pand the number and diversity of solutions to devel-
7 opment challenges.

8 (8) In contrast with traditional grants or con-
9 tracts, where USAID pays for a proposal to be im-
10 plemented, pay-for-success awards are given to a
11 winner only after the objectives of the competition
12 have been achieved.

13 (9) Expanding pay-for-success authority to
14 allow the Lab to use these awards globally will in-
15 crease the number of high value solutions to choose
16 from at a significantly reduced cost.

17 **SEC. 3. UNITED STATES GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT LAB.**

18 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in
19 USAID an entity to be known as the United States Global
20 Development Lab.

21 (b) DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—The duties
22 and responsibilities of the Lab should include—

23 (1) increasing the application of science, tech-
24 nology, innovation and partnerships to develop and
25 scale new solutions to end extreme poverty;

1 (2) discovering, testing, and scaling develop-
2 ment innovations to solve development challenges to
3 increase cost effectiveness and support United
4 States foreign policy and development goals;

5 (3) leveraging the expertise, resources, and in-
6 vestment of businesses, nongovernmental organiza-
7 tions, science and research organizations, and uni-
8 versities to increase program impact and sustain-
9 ability;

10 (4) utilizing innovation-driven competitions to
11 expand the number and diversity of solutions to de-
12 velopment challenges; and

13 (5) supporting USAID missions and bureaus in
14 applying science, technology, innovation, and part-
15 nership approaches to decisionmaking, procurement,
16 and program design.

17 (c) AUTHORITIES.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the duties
19 and responsibilities of the Lab under subsection (b),
20 the Administrator, in addition to such other authori-
21 ties as may be available to the Administrator, in-
22 cluding authorities under part I of the Foreign As-
23 sistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.), is au-
24 thorized to—

1 (A) use not more than \$15,000,000 of
2 funds appropriated or otherwise made available
3 by an Act making appropriations for the De-
4 partment of State, foreign operations, and re-
5 lated programs under the heading “Develop-
6 ment Assistance” for any fiscal year to provide
7 funding to improve health outcomes;

8 (B) provide innovation incentive awards
9 (as defined in section 4(4) of this Act); and

10 (C) use funds appropriated to carry out
11 part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961
12 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.) for the employment of
13 not more than 30 individuals on a limited term
14 basis pursuant to schedule A of subpart C of
15 part 213 of title 5, Code of Federal Regula-
16 tions, or equivalent provisions of law or regula-
17 tions.

18 (2) RECOVERY OF FUNDS.—

19 (A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the du-
20 ties and responsibilities of the Lab under sub-
21 section (b), the Administrator shall require a
22 person or entity that receives funding under a
23 grant, contract, or cooperative agreement made
24 by the Lab to return to the Lab any income

1 generated under a program carried out under
2 such grant, contract, or cooperative agreement.

3 (B) TREATMENT OF PAYMENTS.—

4 (i) IN GENERAL.—The amount of any
5 program income returned to the Lab pur-
6 suant to subparagraph (A) may be credited
7 to the account from which the obligation
8 and expenditure of funds under the grant,
9 contract, or cooperative agreement de-
10 scribed in subparagraph (A) was made.

11 (ii) AVAILABILITY.—

12 (I) IN GENERAL.—Except as pro-
13 vided in subclause (II), amounts re-
14 turned and credited to an account
15 under clause (i)—

16 (aa) shall be merged with
17 other funds in the account; and

18 (bb) shall be available for
19 the same purposes and period of
20 time for which other funds in the
21 account are available for pro-
22 grams and activities of the Lab.

23 (II) EXCEPTION.—Amounts re-
24 turned and credited to an account
25 under clause (i) may not be used to

1 pay for the employment of individuals
2 described in paragraph (1)(C).

3 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

4 In this Act:

5 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
6 trator” means the Administrator of the United
7 States Agency for International Development.

8 (2) LAB.—The term “Lab” means the United
9 States Global Development Lab established under
10 section 3.

11 (3) USAID.—The term “USAID” means the
12 United States Agency for International Develop-
13 ment.

14 (4) INNOVATION INCENTIVE AWARD.—The term
15 “innovation incentive award” means the provision of
16 funding on a competitive basis that—

17 (A) rewards and spurs the development of
18 solutions for a particular, well-defined problem;

19 (B) helps identify and promote a broad
20 range of ideas and practices that may not oth-
21 erwise attract attention, facilitating further de-
22 velopment of the idea or practice by third par-
23 ties; or

24 (C) provides such other types of incentives
25 as the Administrator considers appropriate to

- 1 stimulate innovation that has the potential to
- 2 advance the mission of USAID.

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 3924
OFFERED BY MR. CASTRO OF TEXAS**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “Global Development
3 Lab Act of 2016”.

4 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

5 Congress finds the following:

6 (1) The effectiveness of United States foreign
7 assistance can be greatly enhanced by fostering in-
8 novation, applying science and technology, and
9 leveraging the expertise and resources of the private
10 sector to find low-cost, common sense solutions to
11 today’s most pressing development challenges.

12 (2) Breakthroughs that accelerate economic
13 growth and produce better health outcomes in devel-
14 oping countries can help support the growth of
15 healthier, more stable societies and foster trade rela-
16 tionships that translate into jobs and economic
17 growth in the United States.

1 (3) In 2014, the Office of Science and Tech-
2 nology and the Office of Innovation and Develop-
3 ment Alliances at the United States Agency for
4 International Development (USAID) were stream-
5 lined and merged into the United States Global De-
6 velopment Lab.

7 (4) The Lab partners with entrepreneurs, ex-
8 perts, nongovernmental organizations, universities,
9 and science and research institutions to find solu-
10 tions to specific development challenges in a faster,
11 more cost-efficient, and more sustainable way.

12 (5) The Lab utilizes competitive innovation in-
13 centive awards, a “pay-for-success” model, whereby
14 a development challenge is identified, competitions
15 are launched, ideas with the greatest potential for
16 success are selected and tested, and awards are pro-
17 vided only after the objectives of a competition have
18 been substantially achieved.

19 (6) Enhancing the authorities that support this
20 pay-for-success model will better enable the Lab to
21 diversify and expand both the number and sources
22 of ideas that may be developed, tested, and brought
23 to scale, thereby increasing USAID’s opportunity to
24 apply high value, low-cost solutions to specific devel-
25 opment challenges.

1 **SEC. 3. UNITED STATES GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT LAB.**

2 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is established in
3 USAID an entity to be known as the United States Global
4 Development Lab.

5 (b) **DUTIES.**—The duties of the Lab shall include—

6 (1) increasing the application of science, tech-
7 nology, innovation and partnerships to develop and
8 scale new solutions to end extreme poverty;

9 (2) discovering, testing, and scaling develop-
10 ment innovations to increase cost effectiveness and
11 support United States foreign policy and develop-
12 ment goals;

13 (3) leveraging the expertise, resources, and in-
14 vestment of businesses, nongovernmental organiza-
15 tions, science and research organizations, and uni-
16 versities to increase program impact and sustain-
17 ability;

18 (4) utilizing innovation-driven competitions to
19 expand the number and diversity of solutions to de-
20 velopment challenges; and

21 (5) supporting USAID missions and bureaus in
22 applying science, technology, innovation, and part-
23 nership approaches to decisionmaking, procurement,
24 and program design.

25 (c) **AUTHORITIES.**—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the duties of
2 the Lab under subsection (b), the Administrator, in
3 addition to such other authorities as may be avail-
4 able to the Administrator, including authorities
5 under part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961
6 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.), and subject to the limita-
7 tions described in paragraph (3), is authorized to—

8 (A) use not more than \$15,000,000 of
9 funds made available to carry out the provisions
10 of sections 103, 105, 106, 214, and sections
11 251 through 255, and chapter 10 of part I of
12 the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 for each of
13 the fiscal years 2017 through 2021 to provide
14 funding to improve health outcomes;

15 (B) provide innovation incentive awards
16 (as defined in section 4(5) of this Act); and

17 (C) use funds made available to carry out
18 the provisions of part I of the Foreign Assist-
19 ance Act of 1961 for each of the fiscal years
20 2017 through 2021 for the employment of not
21 more than 30 individuals on a limited term
22 basis pursuant to schedule A of subpart C of
23 part 213 of title 5, Code of Federal Regula-
24 tions, or similar provisions of law or regula-
25 tions.

1 (2) RECOVERY OF FUNDS.—

2 (A) AUTHORITY.—

3 (i) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the
4 duties of the Lab under subsection (b), the
5 Administrator, subject to the limitation de-
6 scribed in clause (ii), is authorized to re-
7 quire a person or entity that receives fund-
8 ing under a grant, contract, or cooperative
9 agreement made by the Lab to return to
10 the Lab any program income that is attrib-
11 utable to funding under such grant, con-
12 tract, or cooperative agreement.

13 (ii) LIMITATION.—The amount of pro-
14 gram income that a person or entity is re-
15 quired to return to the Lab under clause
16 (i) shall not exceed the amount of funding
17 that the person or entity received under
18 the grant, contract, or cooperative agree-
19 ment.

20 (B) TREATMENT OF PAYMENTS.—

21 (i) IN GENERAL.—The amount of any
22 program income returned to the Lab pur-
23 suant to subparagraph (A) may be credited
24 to the account from which the obligation
25 and expenditure of funds under the grant,

1 contract, or cooperative agreement de-
2 scribed in subparagraph (A) was made.

3 (ii) AVAILABILITY.—

4 (I) IN GENERAL.—Except as pro-
5 vided in subclause (II), amounts re-
6 turned and credited to an account
7 under clause (i)—

8 (aa) shall be merged with
9 other funds in the account; and

10 (bb) shall be available for
11 the same purposes and period of
12 time for which other funds in the
13 account are available for pro-
14 grams and activities of the Lab.

15 (II) EXCEPTION.—Amounts re-
16 turned and credited to an account
17 under clause (i) may not be used to
18 pay for the employment of individuals
19 described in paragraph (1)(C).

20 (3) LIMITATIONS.—

21 (A) IN GENERAL.—Concurrent with the
22 submission of the Congressional Budget Jus-
23 tification for Foreign Operations for each fiscal
24 year, the Administrator shall submit to the ap-
25 propriate congressional committees a detailed

1 accounting of USAID's use of authorities under
2 this section, including the sources, amounts,
3 and uses of funding under each of paragraphs
4 (1) and (2).

5 (B) INNOVATION INCENTIVE AWARDS.—In
6 providing innovation incentive awards under
7 paragraph (1)(B), the Administrator shall—

8 (i) limit the amount of individual
9 awards for fiscal year 2017 to not more
10 than \$100,000;

11 (ii) limit the total number of awards
12 for fiscal year 2017 to not more than 10
13 awards; and

14 (iii) notify the appropriate congres-
15 sional committees not later than 15 days
16 after providing each such award.

17 (C) STAFF.—In exercising the authority
18 under paragraph (1)(C), the Administrator
19 should seek to ensure that increases in the
20 number of staff assigned to the Lab are offset
21 by an equivalent reduction in the total number
22 of staff serving elsewhere in USAID.

23 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

24 In this Act:

1 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
2 trator” means the Administrator of the United
3 States Agency for International Development.

4 (2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
5 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
6 mittees” means—

7 (A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and
8 the Committee on Appropriations of the House
9 of Representatives; and

10 (B) the Committees on Foreign Relations
11 and the Committee on Appropriations of the
12 Senate.

13 (3) LAB.—The term “Lab” means the United
14 States Global Development Lab established under
15 section 3.

16 (4) USAID.—The term “USAID” means the
17 United States Agency for International Develop-
18 ment.

19 (5) INNOVATION INCENTIVE AWARD.—The term
20 “innovation incentive award” means the provision of
21 funding on a competitive basis that—

22 (A) encourages and rewards the develop-
23 ment of solutions for a particular, well-defined
24 problem relating to the alleviation of poverty; or

1 (B) helps identify and promote a broad
 2 range of ideas and practices, facilitating further
 3 development of an idea or practice by third par-
 4 ties.



114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4403

To authorize the development of open-source software based on certain systems of the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of State to facilitate the vetting of travelers against terrorist watchlists and law enforcement databases, enhance border management, and improve targeting and analysis, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 1, 2016

Mr. HURD of Texas (for himself, Mr. McCAUL, Mr. KATKO, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Ms. MCSALLY, Mr. RATCLIFFE, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. VELA, and Mr. PAYNE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To authorize the development of open-source software based on certain systems of the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of State to facilitate the vetting of travelers against terrorist watchlists and law enforcement databases, enhance border management, and improve targeting and analysis, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Enhancing Overseas
3 Traveler Vetting Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. OPEN-SOURCE SCREENING SOFTWARE.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (c), the Sec-
6 retary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of State—

7 (1) are authorized to develop open-source soft-
8 ware based on U.S. Customs and Border Protec-
9 tion’s global travel targeting and analysis systems
10 and the Department of State’s watchlisting, identi-
11 fication, and screening systems in order to facilitate
12 the vetting of travelers against terrorist watchlists
13 and law enforcement databases, enhance border
14 management, and improve targeting and analysis;
15 and

16 (2) may make such software and any related
17 technical assistance or training available to foreign
18 governments or multilateral organizations for such
19 purposes.

20 (b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 60 days
21 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
22 of Homeland Security and Secretary of State shall submit
23 to the appropriate congressional committees a plan to im-
24 plement subsection (a).

25 (c) PROVISION OF SOFTWARE AND CONGRESSIONAL
26 NOTIFICATION.—Not later than 15 days before the open-

1 source software described in subsection (a) is made avail-
2 able to foreign governments or multilateral organizations
3 pursuant to such subsection, the Secretary of Homeland
4 Security and Secretary of State, with the concurrence of
5 the Director of National Intelligence, shall—

6 (1) certify to the appropriate congressional
7 committees that such availability is in the national
8 security interests of the United States; and

9 (2) provide to such committees information on
10 how such software or any related technical assist-
11 ance or training will be made available.

12 (d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—The authority pro-
13 vided under this section shall be exercised in accordance
14 with applicable provisions of the Arms Export Control Act
15 (22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.), the Export Administration Reg-
16 ulations, or any other similar provision of law.

17 (e) PROHIBITION ON ADDITIONAL FUNDING.—No
18 additional funds are authorized to be appropriated to
19 carry out this section. This section shall be carried out
20 using amounts otherwise appropriated or made available
21 to the Department of Homeland Security.

22 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

23 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
24 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
25 mittees” means—

- 1 (A) in the House of Representatives—
2 (i) the Committee on Homeland Secu-
3 rity; and
4 (ii) the Committee on Foreign Affairs;
5 and
6 (B) in the Senate—
7 (i) the Committee on Homeland Secu-
8 rity and Governmental Affairs; and
9 (ii) the Committee on Foreign Rela-
10 tions.
- 11 (2) EXPORT ADMINISTRATION REGULATIONS.—
12 The term “Export Administration Regulations”
13 means—
14 (A) the Export Administration Regulations
15 as maintained and amended under the authority
16 of the International Emergency Economic Pow-
17 ers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) and codified
18 in subchapter C of chapter VII of title 15, Code
19 of Federal Regulations; or
20 (B) any successor regulations.

Chairman ROYCE. And after recognizing myself and the ranking member, Mr. Engel, I will be pleased to recognize any member seeking recognition to speak on these measures.

Let us start with House Resolution 148, calling on the Government of Iran to fulfill their promises of assistance. This is in the case of Robert Levinson. And I want to thank Chairman Ros-Lehtinen for quickly marking this and I thank Mr. Deutch for his steadfast dedication to Mr. Levinson's cause.

This calls on Iran to assist in the case of Bob Levinson. Last month four U.S. hostages held by Iran were released as part of a prisoner swap. Absent from the celebration was the family of Bob Levinson. The father of seven remains the longest held U.S. hostage in history and with many unanswered questions about his location and current well being, we must continue to press the administration to do more.

In testimony before this committee, Mr. Levinson's son highlighted the importance of our maintaining a public focus on his father's case. He argued that while one hearing might generate some press, we need continued action to keep his father's fate at the forefront and frankly, it is hard to remember a time when Iran didn't have U.S. citizens in its prisons. As Bob's son testified, "No family should ever have to go through what we all are going through." So we will continue to work to bring Mr. Levinson and other American hostages home.

Then we have House Resolution 551, recognizing the importance of the United States-Israel economic relationship, Mr. Ted Lieu's bill. And this emphasizes the strong history of that economic cooperation and encourages us to build on our shared entrepreneurial spirit and drive to collaborate in a range of areas from energy to water in terms of offsetting drought to agriculture to medicine and to neurotechnology.

Despite Israel's security threats remaining severe, Tel Aviv, once a target of suicide bombers and Scud missiles, is now a bustling city of dotcoms and biotechs and mobile companies. We can learn much from each other such as to how Israel treats and reuses 70 percent of its wastewater for agriculture. As a Member from the drought-stricken State of California, I certainly see great promise in a partnership with Israel that explores ways to conserve water and to desalinate water. And I want to thank Representative Lieu for introducing this resolution that has strong bipartisan support. I am proud to be an original co-sponsor, along with Ranking Member Engel, of Ted Lieu's legislation.

H.R. 4403, Enhancing Overseas Traveler Vetting Act, I acknowledge Mr. Heard for his work on this. The Homeland Security Committee's Bipartisan Task Force on Combating Terrorist and Foreign Fighter Travel highlighted the lack of any comprehensive global database of foreign fighter identities. The task force found that the U.S. and other countries instead rely on a patchwork system for exchanging extremist identities and that this weak arrangement, as they call it, increases the odds that foreign fighters will be able to cross borders undetected.

This legislation authorizes the Secretaries of the Departments of State and Homeland Security to develop open-source software platforms to vet travelers against terrorist watch lists on law enforce-

ment databases. It permits the open-source software to be shared with foreign governments and multi-lateral organizations like INTERPOL. So I thank Homeland Security Chairman McCaul for his leadership as well on this bill.

H.R. 3924, the Global Development Lab Act of 2015. This is the last bill we consider. Extreme poverty breeds insecurity. It undermines the economic security and health interests of the United States. Yet, for too long, we have relied upon approaches that yield mediocre results. The Lab represents a new approach to development. It embraces science and technology. It rewards innovation. It utilizes partnerships and it opens the door for new ideas from unexpected places. It utilizes a pay-for-success model in which a development challenge is identified. Proposals are submitted and financing is made available after success has been demonstrated. So I thank Representative Castro for introducing this important bipartisan measure.

And I now recognize the ranking member for his remarks.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Chairman, thank you for calling this markup. I would note that in the last few weeks the President has signed a number of measures into law that this committee advanced and that is a real great reflection of the way we work across the aisle to get real results. That should always be our focus, and I am glad we are going to advance these four measures in that vein and keep the committee's work chugging along.

Let me start with Mr. Deutch's resolution. Americans breathed a collective sigh of relief when five of our fellow citizens were released by Iran earlier this year. But when it comes to American citizens being wrongly held, there are obviously no partial victories. So the fact that at least two more Americans are still missing or detained in Iran means that we need to stay laser-focused on getting these people home.

One of those missing is retired FBI agent Robert Levinson and we have mentioned him a great many times with all the hearings we have done on Iran. He disappeared in Iran in 2007 and it has been 5 years since his family has received any evidence that he is still alive. As in so many cases, we have heard a lot of promises from the Iranian Government that they will assist in locating Mr. Levinson. And again, as in so many cases, the Iranians have failed to follow through. This is a slap in the face to our diplomatic efforts with Iran and it is a cruel affront to the Levinson family who have already dealt with so much pain and heartbreak. This resolution calls on Iran's leaders to live up to their word and help us find Mr. Levinson.

I want to thank Mr. Deutch for offering this measure and for his hard work on trying to bring Mr. Levinson home. Mr. Levinson is a constituent of his and he has been a tireless champion in trying to get him back. I wholeheartedly support this resolution and I thank Mr. Deutch for his good work.

I also support the measure sponsored by Mr. Lieu and Mr. Poe which recognizes the importance of the economic ties between the United States and our ally, Israel. We often look at Israel through a security prism, but our bond with Israel, of course, is much more dynamic than that. We have had a free trade agreement with Israel for more than three decades. In that time, trade between our

countries has increased tenfold. Our economic ties have been good for both countries, creating jobs and driving growth. Over the years, the United States and Israel have established a number of institutions to help strengthen these ties even further: The U.S.-Israel binational Science Foundation, and the Industrial Research and Development Foundation, the Agricultural Research and Development Fund.

This resolution calls for even greater cooperation in energy, water, agriculture, medicine, neurotechnology, and cyber security. It encourages the administration to hold regular, expanded, economic dialogues and to push for more private/public partnerships. I am happy to co-sponsor this measure and I again thank Mr. Poe and Mr. Lieu for bringing it forward.

Next, let me commend Mr. Castro for his hard work on the Global Development Lab Act which will strengthen one of our best tools for promoting new innovations in global development efforts. A development lab was established within USAID to help develop and deploy poverty-reduction technologies more widely and at a lower cost. The Lab works with NGOs, corporations, and universities to bring in the best ideas to stay on the cutting edge of development. It is also expanding USAID's impact through a public/private dollar-for-dollar matching program that allows us to scale these innovations up without expanding USAID's budget.

We are seeing real results. In 2014, the Lab invested in 362 new solutions that touched nearly 14 million people around the world. For example, the Lab funded an initiative to produce more food where fresh water is hard to come by. The securing water for food grant challenge led to a system that makes seawater or brackish water usable for drinking or agriculture. It consumes so little energy that the cost to use it is low, even in areas off the power grid. This is what we mean when we talk about innovation.

This bill would build on the Lab's success by creating new authorities for the Lab to expand and manage its partnerships. It will give the Lab greater flexibility for hiring experts on a project-by-project basis and it will allow the Lab to award small, targeted grants that have proven so effective in supporting healthcare providers.

I commend Mr. Castro for his hard work on this very good bill. It makes a good initiative better and I am pleased to support it.

And lastly, I am pleased that we are taking up the Enhancing Overseas Traveler Vetting Act. One of the best ways to crack down on violent extremism is to catch terrorists trying to cross borders—not just our borders, but borders around the world. The bill would allow the State Department and the Department of Homeland Security to develop open-source software to vet travelers crossing borders and sound the alarm if a terrorist is trying to sneak through. That software could then be shared with allies, partners, and multilateral organizations like the European Union. Existing safeguards would ensure that the software is developed in collaboration with our intelligence community and that it only gets into the right hands. This is an innovative way to help ensure that terrorists don't slip through the cracks and I am happy to support it.

Again, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I yield back.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you, Mr. Engel. We go to Mr. Smith of New Jersey.

Mr. SMITH. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. First of all, I would like to thank you, Chairman Royce, and Ranking Member Eliot Engel, for marking up these four bipartisan bills and especially for marking up H. Res. 148 and I want to thank again Ted Deutch for authoring this resolution which keeps the spotlight and the pressure on both the administration and Iran to resolve the case of missing American Robert Levinson. Robert Levinson is now, as you pointed out, the longest held hostage in American history. His daughter and son-in-law used to live in my district in Monmouth County, along with his six other children, numerous grandchildren, as well as his wife, Christine. They all desperately await word of his whereabouts.

Mr. Levinson, as we all know, is a retired FBI agent, who disappeared on a business trip to Iran in 2007. His captors last released photos and video of him back in 2011. Mr. Levinson is elderly, suffers from diabetes, and appeared sickly in the last photos in which he was seen. He has been captive for almost 9 years and needs to be immediately returned to his broken-hearted family. I urge my colleagues to show their continued commitment to bringing Mr. Levinson home by unanimously supporting this resolution.

And I ask unanimous consent that my comments on each of the other bills pending before the committee be made a part of the record.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you, Mr. Smith. Mr. Castro of Texas.

Mr. CASTRO. Thank you, Chairman, and thank you for bringing my bill, H.R. 3924, for markup today. I want to say thank you, first of all, to my co-sponsor, Representative McCaul of Austin. Thank you and your staff for all of your hard work as well as the staff of the committee. I know there is a lot of work that goes into preparing these bills and most of all, thank you to USAID for developing the Global Development Lab and now working to improve it. It essentially democratizes problem solving and crowdsources ideas and applications to combat poverty and our greatest poverty challenges throughout the world, whether it is access to clean water, access to electricity, immunizations, birth defects, any of those gray challenges that are faced by many countries throughout the world. This makes sure that there is a competition of ideas and applications to solve these problems. And so I am very proud of the work that USAID has done and very proud also that this is a bipartisan bill.

Thank you, Chairman.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you, Mr. Castro. Mr. McCaul of Texas.

Mr. McCAUL. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also want to thank my colleagues from Texas, Mr. Castro, for his leadership and the staff for working so hard on this. It is important legislation. It is bipartisan. The Global Development Lab will harness the U.S. entrepreneurial spirit to create cost effective, sustainable solutions to global poverty.

As we have seen time and time again, creating opportunity in impoverished countries is a powerful catalyst for our foreign policy abroad and as chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, I know that this legislation will help us fight terrorism by

providing the most vulnerable with the means to create a better future for themselves and their loved ones, rather than falling victim to the false narrative of extremists who prey on the impoverished and who fill these vacuums and turn them into safe havens for terrorists.

So again, I want to thank Mr. Castro for his hard work and ask that the committee support passage of this bill.

Chairman ROYCE. Mr. Deutch of Florida.

Mr. DEUTCH. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First, I would like to thank you and the ranking member for holding this markup. I want to thank Mr. Lieu and Mr. Poe for their important reaffirmation of the many ways that the United States and Israel both benefit from expanded economic cooperation. I want to commend Mr. Castro and Mr. McCaul for the Global Development Lab Act and the innovation developed by that Lab which will be enhanced and expanded. And I am proud to support the Enhancing Overseas Traveler Vetting Act.

I want to especially thank my friend, Chairman Emeritus Ros-Lehtinen, for introducing the Levinson resolution with me for the past several years, along with our Florida colleagues, Congresswoman Wasserman Schultz and Congressman Diaz-Balart. And I thank the many members of this committee who have co-sponsored this resolution for their continued support and to the chairman and ranking member and Mr. Smith and others who have spoken powerfully this morning about Bob. Many of you have heard me speak of my constituent, Bob Levinson, many times over the past 6 years. Today, I will be brief. The recent return of our American citizens from Iran brought renewed focus to Bob's case. And while we celebrated the joyous reunion of the Americans who had been held hostage who were returned home, unfortunately, we do not—and the Levinson family has yet to feel that same joy.

Two weeks ago, the Middle East Subcommittee held a markup of the resolution where we were joined by Bob's wife, Christine, and his eldest son, Dan. By passing this resolution today and sending it to the floor of the House, we have the opportunity to remind Christine, Dan, and Bob's six other children that we won't forget about Bob.

Mr. Chairman, 9 years is too long. It is too many anniversaries. It is too many birthdays, weddings, the births of grandchildren for Bob to miss. Bob must come home now. This message is resonating from Washington around the country and to the community that I proudly represent in South Florida. On Saturday, March 5, Bob's own community in South Florida will come together for a rally in support of the Levinson family to send a united resolute message that Bob must come home. And to those around the country watching this at home today, I encourage them to Tweet using the #WhatAboutBob to keep Bob's name and his story front and center. And by passing this resolution, Mr. Chairman, we as Members of the United States Congress reaffirm that we will never stop fighting until Bob is home with his family.

I appreciate the support and I yield back.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you. Thank you very much. I appreciate that, Mr. Ted Deutch. We now go to Mr. Steve Chabot of Ohio.

Mr. CHABOT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will be brief because my colleagues have already spoken much better than I could about this. I want to commend both Mr. Deutch and Ms. Ros-Lehtinen for their unrelenting determination to do everything within their power to assist the Levinson family and to try to get Bob home. I mean to think 9 days would be a long time, 9 weeks, 9 months. It has been 9 years and it is incomprehensible how hard this must have been on him and on his family. I know the administration has repeatedly called for the safe return of Mr. Levinson, but this should always be at the forefront of any talks, when we ever talk with Iran, this should be discussed, whatever it is. And I would encourage that to occur.

And I would also like to rise in support of H. Res. 551, the resolution with respect to U.S.-Israeli economic relations. They are obviously one of our strongest—if not our strongest—allies on this globe and ensuring a comprehensive and sustainable alliance and increasing trade ties, economic dialogue, this is all for the better, will improve the relationship between our two nations which is one of the most critical relationships that we have.

So I want to thank all our colleagues involved in both of these and I would like to yield back.

Chairman ROYCE. Do any of our Democrat colleagues seek recognition at this point?

We will go to Mr. Mark Meadows of North Carolina.

Mr. MEADOWS. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for your leadership and I would gladly yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Texas, Mr. McCaul.

Chairman ROYCE. Mr. McCaul is recognized.

Mr. MCCAUL. I thank Mr. Meadows for yielding time, Mr. Chairman. Ranking Member, I want to thank you for collaborating with my Committee on Homeland Security on H.R. 4403, Enhancing Overseas Traveler Vetting Act. It is a bipartisan bill, passed unanimously out of my committee. It implements an important recommendation of the Task Force on Combating Terrorist and Foreign Fighter Travel. The bipartisan panel found that many of our foreign partners lack crucial tripwires to detect extremists when they are moving across borders. Without adequate screening and watchlist systems, these countries are letting jihadists slip through their fingers. This puts America and our allies at risk. We cannot allow foreign fighters to crisscross the globe undetected. This legislation will help our most vulnerable partners put in place vetting systems quickly, rather than taking years to develop their own. We must shut down the jihadi superhighway to and from terrorist safe havens overseas and this bill that we are considering will help do exactly that.

I commend also Representative Heard who is on the task force for writing this legislation and I urge my colleagues here on the Foreign Affairs Committee to support it. With that, I yield back.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you, Mr. Mike McCaul. Do any other members seek recognition? Hearing none, the question occurs on the items considered en bloc.

All those in favor, say aye?

No, for those opposed?

In the opinion of the Chair the ayes have it and the measures considered en bloc are agreed to. Without objection, the measures considered en bloc are ordered favorably reported as amended. And staff is directed to make any technical and conforming changes.

Also without objection, the Chair is authorized to seek House consideration of those measures under suspension of the rules. And that concludes our business for today. I want to thank Ranking Member Eliot Engel and all of our committee members for their contributions and their assistance to today's markup. The committee stands adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 10:27 a.m., the committee was adjourned.]

A P P E N D I X

MATERIAL SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD

FULL COMMITTEE MARKUP NOTICE
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6128

Edward R. Royce (R-CA), Chairman

February 24, 2016

TO: MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

You are respectfully requested to attend an OPEN meeting of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, to be held in Room 2172 of the Rayburn House Office Building (and available live on the Committee website at <http://www.ForeignAffairs.house.gov>):

DATE: Wednesday, February 24, 2016

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

MARKUP OF: H. Res. 148, Calling on the government of Iran to fulfill their promises of assistance in this case of Robert Levinson, the longest held United States hostage in our Nation's history;

H. Res. 551, Recognizing the importance of the United States-Israel economic relationship and encouraging new areas of cooperation;

H.R. 3924, Global Development Lab of 2015; and

H.R. 4403, Enhancing Overseas Traveler Vetting Act.

By Direction of the Chairman

The Committee on Foreign Affairs seeks to make its facilities accessible to persons with disabilities. If you are in need of special accommodations, please call 202/225-5021 at least four business days in advance of the event, whenever practicable. Questions with regard to special accommodations in general (including availability of Committee materials in alternative formats and assistive listening devices) may be directed to the Committee.



COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
MINUTES OF FULL COMMITTEE MARKUP

Day Wednesday Date 2/24/2016 Room 2172

Starting Time 10:04 Ending Time 10:27

Recesses 0 (____ to ____) (____ to ____) (____ to ____) (____ to ____) (____ to ____) (____ to ____)

Presiding Member(s)

Chairman Edward R. Royce

Check all of the following that apply:

Open Session ☒

Executive (closed) Session ☐

Televised ☒

Electronically Recorded (taped) ☒

Stenographic Record ☒

BILLS FOR MARKUP: *(Include bill number(s) and title(s) of legislation.)*

See attached.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

See attached.

NON-COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

none

STATEMENTS FOR THE RECORD: *(List any statements submitted for the record.)*

none

ACTIONS TAKEN DURING THE MARKUP: *(Attach copies of legislation and amendments.)*

See markup summary.

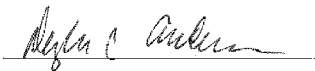
RECORDED VOTES TAKEN (FOR MARKUP): *(Attach final vote tally sheet listing each member.)*

| <u>Subject</u> | <u>Yeas</u> | <u>Nays</u> | <u>Present</u> | <u>Not Voting</u> |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|-------------------|
|----------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|-------------------|

TIME SCHEDULED TO RECONVENE

or

TIME ADJOURNED 10:27



Doug Anderson, General Counsel

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

FULL COMMITTEE MARKUP

| <i>PRESENT</i> | <i>MEMBER</i> |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| X | Edward R. Royce, CA |
| X | Christopher H. Smith, NJ |
| | Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, FL |
| | Dana Rohrabacher, CA |
| X | Steve Chabot, OH |
| | Joe Wilson, SC |
| X | Michael T. McCaul, TX |
| | Ted Poe, TX |
| | Matt Salmon, AZ |
| X | Darrell Issa, CA |
| | Tom Marino, PA |
| | Jeff Duncan, SC |
| X | Mo Brooks, AL |
| | Paul Cook, CA |
| | Randy Weber, TX |
| | Scott Perry, PA |
| | Ron DeSantis, FL |
| X | Mark Meadows, NC |
| | Ted Yoho, FL |
| X | Curt Clawson, FL |
| X | Scott DesJarlais, TN |
| | Reid Ribble, WI |
| | Dave Trott, MI |
| X | Lee Zeldin, NY |
| | Dan Donovan, NY |

| <i>PRESENT</i> | <i>MEMBER</i> |
|----------------|------------------------|
| X | Eliot L. Engel, NY |
| | Brad Sherman, CA |
| | Gregory W. Meeks, NY |
| | Albio Sires, NJ |
| X | Gerald E. Connolly, VA |
| X | Theodore E. Deutch, FL |
| X | Brian Higgins, NY |
| X | Karen Bass, CA |
| X | William Keating, MA |
| | David Cicilline, RI |
| X | Alan Grayson, FL |
| | Ami Bera, CA |
| | Alan S. Lowenthal, CA |
| X | Grace Meng, NY |
| | Lois Frankel, FL |
| X | Tulsi Gabbard, HI |
| X | Joaquin Castro, TX |
| | Robin Kelly, IL |
| | Brendan Boyle, PA |
| | |
| | |

2/24/16 Foreign Affairs Committee Markup Summary

By unanimous consent, the Chair called up the following measures and amendments, to be considered *en bloc*:

- 1) H. Res. 148 (Deutch), Calling on the government of Iran to fulfill their promises of assistance in the case of Robert Levinson, the longest held United States hostage in our Nation's history
 - a. Ros-Lehtinen/Deutch 31, an amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.Res. 148
- 2) H. Res. 551 (Lieu), Recognizing the importance of the United States-Israel economic relationship and encouraging new areas of cooperation
- 3) H.R. 3924 (Castro), Global Development Lab of 2015
 - a. Castro 218, an amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 3924
- 4) H.R. 4403 (Hurd), Enhancing Overseas Traveler Vetting Act

By unanimous consent, the measures considered *en bloc* were ordered favorably reported, as amended, and the Chair was authorized to seek House consideration of the measures under suspension of the rules.

The Committee adjourned.